

York



# ANNUAL REPORT

... OF ...

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

... OF THE ...

Pocklington Urban District Council

FOR 1913.



W. & C. FORTH



TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN DISTRICT  
COUNCIL OF POCKLINGTON.

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SIR,

As Medical Officer of Health for the Urban District Council of Pocklington, I beg to submit to you the following Report for the year ended December 31st, 1913, and to enclose Tables I, II, III, and IV, and Form 572, showing the deaths—classified according to diseases, ages, and localities, also the cases of infectious disease which have been notified to me, and the number and causes of deaths of infants under one year of age which have occurred in the District.

**A.—Natural and  
Social Conditions  
of the District.**

I.—*Physical Features and General Character of the District.*—The Pocklington Urban District is situated in the East Riding of Yorkshire, having a station on the North Eastern Railway between Hull and York. The total area of the District is 2564 acres, including 75 acres taken over from Barmby Moor, and 7 of water. The population in 1901 was 2554, and at the census of 1911, 2555.

The District forms part of the low country at the foot of the wolds. The surface is of loam soil, under this gravel, then the keuper marl, and under this bunter sandstone.

At the foot of the wolds the lias clays come to the surface above the keuper marl, the presence of the impervious lias clays on the edge of the chalk accounting for the springs which appear, and from these springs the water is obtained by the Pocklington Waterworks Company, supplying quite two-thirds of the houses in the town.

II.—*Social Conditions.*—The District is almost entirely agricultural, and the local trades include brewing, malting, flour milling, rope and twine making.

The District for Poor Law purposes is in the Pocklington Union, and all ordinary cases of illness amongst the poor are treated in the Pocklington Workhouse Infirmary, or by out-relief in their own homes.

Cases necessitating operative treatment are sent to either the Hull Royal Infirmary or the York County Hospital.

There is as yet no Isolation Hospital for Infectious Diseases and no Sanatorium for the treatment of Consumption.

**BIRTHS.**

During the year the number of births belonging to the District amounted to 58, being below the number for 1912, which was 65, and yielding a birth rate of 23·5 per 1000, being below the average for the five preceding years, which was 24·4.

Of these births 28 were males and 30 females.

Of the 58 births registered 3 were illegitimate, being at the rate of 5 per 100 births, a considerable improvement on last year.

**DEATHS.**

During the same period the deaths of 61 persons have been



recorded, being 21 more than in 1912, and giving a death rate of 24·2 per 1000 of population, being above the average of the five preceding years, which was 18·2.

Of these 30 were males and 31 females.

Of the 61 deaths registered 10 were of persons not belonging to the District, all of these occurring in the Union Workhouse. 2 deaths have been recorded during the year of residents from the District occurring in public institutions outside the District, so that, excluding those who did not belong to the District, the actual number of deaths belonging to the District is 53, giving a death rate of 21·6 per 1000.

There were 9 deaths of infants under one year of age, being in the proportion of 155 to every 1000 births, being above the average of the five preceding years, which was 116.

20 persons were 70 years of age and upwards, 6 of whom attained the advanced ages of 80 years and upwards, the oldest of these being 97.

2 deaths occurred from Miasmatic or Infectious Diseases, both of them being from Measles.

No deaths occurred from Enteric Fever, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Erysipelas, Influenza, Whooping Cough, or Consumption.

The deaths from Inflammatory Affections of the Respiratory Organs, not including Consumption, amounted to 11, or 18 per cent. of the whole mortality.

Three inquests were held during the year, in two cases death being due to natural causes, and in the other case to asphyxiation by hanging.

## **B.—Sanitary Circumstances of the District.**

### *I.—Water Supply of the District.*

The Pocklington Waterworks supply quite three-fourths of the District with water, which is carried through iron pipes from Little Givendale, slightly over two miles from the town of Pocklington.

The water rises in the dale where the chalk of the wold country and the impervious lias clays meet.

The water is of a high standard of purity and cannot get contaminated in any part of its course.

The rest of the water supply is obtained from shallow wells. These generally are good and have no obvious source of contamination.

No new wells have been made during the year, 34 houses having been newly supplied from the water mains.

### *II.—Pollution of Rivers and Streams in the District.*

There is no river pollution, four-fifths of the drainage being treated and filtered, giving a good effluent.

### *III.—Privy, Water Closet, and other Closet Accommodation in the District.*

Half of the houses are provided with water closets, the other half have combined privies and ashpits.





Six privies have been converted into water closets, and seven new water closets have been made.

The removal of house refuse, and the cleansing of closets, ashpits, and privies in the District is done by the Urban Council, on notice being given by the occupier, a small charge being made, just sufficient to cover the expense of cleansing and removal. This arrangement answers well.

#### IV.—*Sanitary Inspections of District.*

During the year systematic inspections have been made of all premises occupied by cowkeepers and purveyors of milk, butchers' shops and slaughter houses, fish shops, fellmongers' premises, model lodging houses, and bakehouses. 13 notices have been served dealing with 99 nuisances or defects, 67 of which have been remedied, and the remainder will be done at an early date.

Seven defective closets and ashplaces were found, all of which have been remedied.

One dirty house was examined and has been cleansed and lime-washed.

Three inspections have been made after infectious disease.

Two houses have been inspected on account of water supply, and in both cases the water was sent for analysis.

Thirteen notices, formal and informal, have been served, and have been complied with in nine cases; in the remainder the notices are being complied with.

These notices were mostly regarding the paving of back yards, and the delay in a few cases has been owing to the owners wishing to do the concreting in favourable weather.

#### *Details of Sanitary Work carried out during 1913.*

Dwelling-houses inspected .....	96
„    disinfected after cases of ordinary infectious disease .....	0
„    disinfected after cases of Phthisis .....	3
„    condemned as unfit for habitation .....	0
„    found overcrowded .....	0
Dwelling-house yards paved .....	21
New houses built .....	4
Number of notices served (formal and informal) .....	13
„    complied with .....	9
Number of nuisances found .....	99
„    abated .....	67
Number of defective privies and ashpits remedied .....	7
New ashpits made .....	0
Privies converted to W.C.'s .....	6
„    pail closets .....	0
Ashpits covered .....	0
New W.C.'s.....	7
Number of defective house drains found .....	0





Number of drains trapped or disconnected .....	0
„ new drains laid .....	7
„ drains relaid .....	0
„ drains better ventilated.....	1
„ cesspools removed .....	0
New cesspools made .....	0
Nuisances from animals abated .....	0
Water Supplies—	
Houses newly supplied from water mains .....	34
New wells made .....	0
New bore wells made.....	0
Wells closed, water unsafe .....	0
Samples of water sent for examination .....	2
Water certificates granted for new houses in Rural Districts	0
Dairies and Cowsheds—	
Number on register .....	9
Number of cows .....	59
Visits to cowsheds .....	20
„ dairies .....	—
Defects found .....	0
„ remedied .....	—
Slaughter Houses—	
Number on register .....	5
Visits to .....	20
Common Lodging Houses—	
Number on register .....	2
Visits to .....	12
Canal Boats inspected .....	0

*V.—Premises and Occupations which can be controlled  
by Byelaws or Regulations.*

The only premises controlled by regulations are the dairies, cowsheds, and milk shops, of which there are five on the register.

These regulations were adopted by the Urban District Council, and come under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milk Shops Order, 1885, and the Amending Order, 1886.

*VI.—Schools.*

There are three elementary schools in the District. These are well supplied with water and are in a sanitary condition.

**FGOD.**

*(A)—Milk supply. Conditions affecting the wholesomeness of  
the Milk produced or sold in the District.*

The premises of cowkeepers and purveyors of milk, nine in number, have been systematically inspected during the year and have been visited from time to time, twenty visits in all being made during the year.

The premises are all well drained and concreted, and are in a sanitary condition.

There are 59 cows kept, none of which have been found suffering from Tuberculosis.



The cans and utensils for the milk, and the places in which milk is kept, are clean and in good order.

In my opinion the premises are in a good sanitary state, and there is every reason to suppose that the milk supply for the District is clean and wholesome.

(B)—*Conditions affecting the wholesomeness of Foods for Human Consumption, other than milk, produced or sold in the District.*

The Food and Drugs Act is worked by the County Council, so that practically the only foods coming under my supervision are meat and fish.

There is one fresh fish shop in the District, where fresh fish is procured daily; the fish is always clean and fresh, and the premises in good order.

There are two fried fish shops in the District, both of which are clean and well kept.

The slaughterhouses in the District, six in number, are all registered. They have been systematically inspected both at times of slaughtering and otherwise. They are clean, sanitary, and well kept.

There has been no evidence of Tuberculosis in meat in any slaughterhouse in the District. The meat sold is of high quality.

The sanitary inspector does not hold a special certificate for meat inspection.

**Housing and Town  
Planning Act, 1909.**

A systematic inspection under this Act is being carried on throughout the District, 96 dwellinghouses having been inspected during the year.

A record is kept regarding water supply, number and measurements of rooms, ventilation, closet accommodation, baths, drainage, light, dampness, cleanliness, condition of yards, outbuildings, ash-pits, and condition of animals on the premises; thereby a complete record of the District being built up.

Of the 96 houses which were examined none were found unfit for human habitation, and no closing orders had to be issued.

In 1912 closing orders were issued in respect of three houses, and a fourth was under consideration. The three houses are still closed, but the Council have decided to purchase them for street improvement, subject to the sanction of the Local Government Board. The fourth was remedied without the necessity of a closing order.

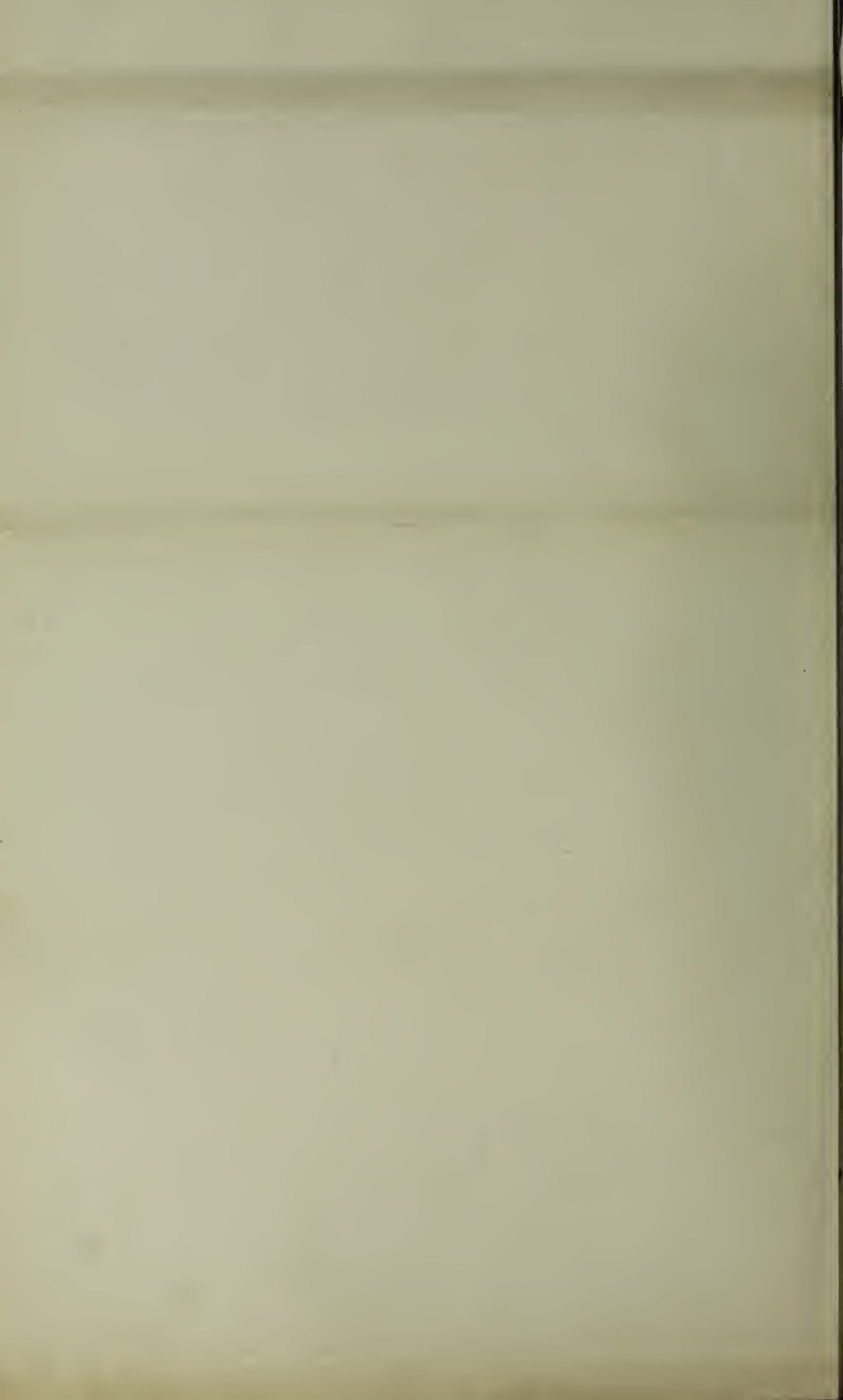
Other three houses were closed without the necessity of an order, being partly pulled down and rebuilt to the satisfaction of the Council.

Four new houses have been built during the year.

21 yards were in a defective state; most of these have been concreted, and the remainder are in hand.

Of the 96 dwellinghouses where defects were found 85 have been remedied, and the remainder have been undertaken to be remedied at an early date, some being now in hand.

The number of houses available for the working classes seems to be quite adequate, and although the population has not materially





increased, new houses for the working classes are being built, four new ones being completed during the year and four more being in process of building.

On the whole the housing of the working classes is better, more sanitary, and the dwellings cleaner than formerly, and the Act is working well in the interests of these people.

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Number of dwelling houses inspected under and for the purposes of Section 17 of the Act of 1909 .....	96
Number of dwelling houses found unfit for human habitation ....	0
Number of dwelling houses made fit for habitation without formal representation .....	0
Number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to the making of Closing Orders.....	0
Number of Closing Orders made.....	0
Number of dwelling houses in which the defects were remedied or undertaken to be remedied without the making of Closing Orders .....	85
Number of dwelling houses which after the making of Closing Orders were put into a fit state for human habitation .....	0
Number of houses voluntarily closed by owners .....	0
Number of houses voluntarily demolished by owners .....	0
General character of the defects found to exist—dampness, defective closets, ashplaces, and yards, and fixed windows.	

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#### WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

These premises, 49 in number, have all been inspected during the year. In one case a water closet was found in a defective condition and has been remedied.

#### BAKEHOUSES.

These premises, six in number, are all clean and sanitary.

#### COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

Two in number, have been inspected both by night and by day ; they are clean and sanitary.

#### C.—Sanitary Administration of the District.

##### I.—*Work of Inspector of Nuisances and other Officers engaged in Sanitary Work.*

The sanitary inspector, along with myself, has made 96 inspections under the Housing and Town Planning Act, and numerous re-inspections to see that defects previously reported were being rectified.

He has served 13 notices during the year, dealing with 99 nuisances or sanitary defects, and has had 67 of these remedied.

He has visited several houses to enquire into cases where overcrowding was suspected, and has had a dirty house cleansed and limewashed.

He has disinfected three dwelling houses where cases of Phthisis have occurred.

He has sent away two samples of water for analysis.

Along with myself he has systematically inspected premises occupied by cowkeepers, purveyors of milk, and fellmongers, and all butchers' shops, slaughter houses, fish shops, common lodging houses, and bakeries, and has visited the workshops in the District, 48 in number.





He has inspected and reported defects in drainage, sewerage, and water supplies, and had these rectified.

## II.—*Hospital Administration in relation to Infectious Diseases and to Tuberculosis.*

There is no Isolation Hospital in the District, although the matter has for a long time now been in the hands of the County Authorities.

The want of an Isolation Hospital is very much felt, and it is to be hoped that during the coming year something will be done in the way of at least commencing to make proper provision for infectious disease.

There is no Sanatorium for the treatment of Tuberculosis, the Council, however, sent one case to the Withernsea Sanatorium for treatment.

Treatment in a Sanatorium is most essential for these cases, and the fact that there is no provision for poor persons suffering from this disease is in my opinion a matter for serious consideration.

## III.—*Administration of Local Acts or General Adoptive Acts in force in the District.*

(A)—Regulations under Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milk Shops Order, and Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act, 1886.

(B)—Private Street Works Act, 1892.

(C)—Parts II, III, and V of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, and all the sections of the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

## IV.—*Chemical and Bacteriological Work during the year.*

The Council have made arrangements for all cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, and Enteric Fever to be examined bacteriologically, and any medical practitioner in the District can have this done by the Clinical Research Association at the Council's expense.

A supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin is kept by the Medical Officer of Health by the Council's instructions, which is available for the cases of medical men in the District.

7 bacteriological examinations have been made during the year.

Two samples of water have been sent for analysis.

### D.—Prevalence of and Control over Acute Infectious Diseases.

During the year only one case of Infectious Disease has been notified to me, this being a case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, there being no cases of Scarlet Fever, Enteric Fever, Diphtheria, Erysipelas, or Whooping Cough.

### MEASLES.

During the months of January and February a number of cases occurred. The type of the disease was severe and four deaths were recorded therefrom.

### INFLUENZA.

A number of cases of this disease occurred during the early months of the year. The type however was mild and no deaths occurred.

The control over infectious diseases occurring in the District is very limited, owing to the fact that there is no Isolation Hospital.

All cases are enquired into and the premises examined, the source of infection traced as far as possible, and instructions given regarding isolation and disinfection. Disinfectants are supplied in all cases.



I am glad to say that more care and attention is given to infected persons than formerly, and the working classes try as far as their surroundings permit to keep children isolated, but the want of an Isolation Hospital is very apparent.

The sanitary inspector disinfects all premises after infectious disease, spraying with a strong solution of Izal being the means adopted, and immersion in the same disinfectant being used for clothes and bed linen.

**E.—Prevalence of and Control over Tuberculosis.**

Only one case of this disease has been notified during the past year, and no deaths have occurred from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

There is no Sanatorium for the treatment of Tuberculosis, and in the case of poor persons developing the disease there is practically no provision for their treatment.

Isolation is nearly impossible under the existing conditions, and it is not uncommon to see the person suffering from the disease living in the same room as the other inmates, and a separate bedroom for the sufferer is the exception rather than the rule.

The result is that the affected person seldom recovers, and direct infection from one person to another is not uncommon.

As I have year by year reported there is practically no provision for the treatment of this disease, and it is an appalling fact that lives are being lost in the District because the disease is uncatered for.

**F.—Means of Preventing Mortality in Childbirth, and in Infancy.**

The East Riding County Council is the authority under the Midwives Act, 1902, but there are no registered midwives working in the District, the work being done by medical men.

The Notification of Births Act, 1907, has not been adopted.

The number of deaths of children under one year of age amounted to 9, as compared with 3 in 1912, and is in the proportion of 155 to every 1000 births, being above the average of the five preceding years, which was 116.

Of the 9 deaths registered 1 was from Bronchitis, 1 from Broncho-Pneumonia, 2 from Diarrhoea, 2 from Congenital Debility, and 3 from other defined diseases.

In my opinion much more care regarding the feeding of infants is now observed, and the working classes give more attention to these matters than they did previously.

In conclusion I have much pleasure in submitting my report. There has been a large decrease in the amount of infectious disease, and in my opinion the general sanitary conditions have considerably improved.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

AL. F. A. FAIRWEATHER, M.B.,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

FAIRCOTE, POCKLINGTON,  
*March, 1914.*



TABLE I.

## Vital Statistics of whole District during 1913 and previous years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Uncorrected Number.	NETT.				Of Non-residents registered in the District.	Of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 year of age.		At all ages.	
			Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.			Number.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1908	2463	...	63	25·5	50	20·3	...	...	14	222	45	18·2
1909	2480	...	58	23·5	43	17·4	...	...	5	86	32	13
1910	2496	...	63	25	53	21·2	...	...	8	126	47	18·8
1911	2555	64	60	23	43	16·8	3	2	6	102	42	16·4
1912	2587	65	65	25·1	40	15·4	9	2	3	46	33	12·7
1913	2516	58	58	23·5	61	24·2	10	2	9	155	53	21·6

Area of District in acres.....2564.

Total population at all ages ..... 2555  
 Number of inhabited houses ..... 576  
 Average number of persons per house .....4.5

At Census of 1911.

TABLE II.

## Cases of Infectious Disease notified during 1913.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER NOTIFIED.								Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.....	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
TOTALS.....	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...

Isolation Hospital or Hospitals, Sanatoria, &amp;c.....None.







TABLE III.  
Causes of, and Ages at Death during 1913.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-residents" in Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 to 2.	2 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All causes { Certified.....	53	9	5	2	2	1	4	13	17	Nil
Uncertified .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Measles .....	4	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	
Tuberculous Meningitis .....	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	
Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	
Organic Heart Disease .....	9	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	2	
Bronchitis .....	7	1	1	...	...	...	1	2	2	
Pneumonia (all forms).....	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	
Diarrhœa and Enteritis .....	3	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Cirrhosis of Liver .....	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	
Nephritis and Bright's Disease.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth .....	3	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Suicide .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	
Other Defined Diseases .....	18	3	...	...	1	...	...	2	12	

TABLE IV.  
Infant Mortality. 1913.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 week.	1 to 2 weeks.	2 to 3 weeks.	3 to 4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1 to 3 months.	3 to 6 months.	6 to 9 months.	9 to 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All causes { Certified .....	4	...	...	1	5	3	...	1	...	9
Uncertified .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions .....	2	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	3
Bronchitis .....	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia (all forms) .....	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Enteritis .....	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	2
Premature Birth .....	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus .....	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1

Nett Births in the year { legitimate..... 55.  
illegitimate..... 3.

Nett Deaths in the year of { legitimate infants..... 8.  
illegitimate infants.....1.

